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**A BIOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE OF THE OKEFINOKEE SWAMP
IN GEORGIA.**

PREFATORY.

During the summer of 1912 a party of zoologists, all from Cornell University, visited the Okefinokee Swamp in southeastern Georgia, remaining seven weeks in the early summer (May 28 to July 13). The party consisted of Professors C. R. Crosby and J. Chester Bradley, of the Department of Entomology; Dr. A. H. Wright, of the Department of Zoology; Headmaster W. D. Funkhouser, of the Ithaca High School; Messrs. M. D. Leonard, S. C. Bishop and A. R. Cahn, of the class of 1913, and Paul Battle, of Bainbridge, Ga. Mr. E. L. Worsham, State Entomologist of Georgia, and Mr. Charles S. Spooner, Assistant State Entomologist, were with the party for a week. A smaller party from the same institution spent two weeks in the swamp in December, 1913 (December 18, 1913, to January 1, 1914). This party consisted of Professors James G. Needham and J. Chester Bradley, John T. Needham and Paul Battle. In addition, Dr. Bradley and Mr. Battle spent a week in the swamp in September, 1913, and Dr. Bradley had made very brief trips into the swamp in the fall of 1909 and the spring of 1911.

The object of all these expeditions was to study and put on record something of the biological conditions in this extensive fresh-water swamp, which still presents in a large measure primitive and interesting conditions of environment, before they should become forever changed by the now rapidly penetrating lumbermen.

Under the above title it is intended to publish reports upon the various groups collected, as studied. In due course a general account of the ecological and environmental features will be published. A report upon the birds, by Dr. Albert H. Wright and F. Harper, has appeared in *The Auk*, 1913, 4 : 477-505, Pl. XIV-XX. This contains brief descriptions of the various "habitats" of the swamp.

In the reports on the various groups, observations made and specimens collected during the summer of 1912 will be credited to the "Cornell University Expedition," abbreviated "C. U. Exp." This does not imply that the university had any official connection with the work. Each member of the party went on his own initiative and at his own expense.